

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the above is requested along with return of an initialed of the attached PTO-1449 Form and the PTO-1449 Form filed with the Information Disclosure Statement dated April 16, 2002, pursuant to MPEP §609.

Claims 1-14 have been canceled, without prejudice.

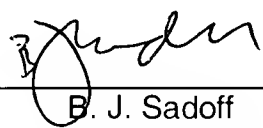
Claims 15-42 have been added. Support for the amended claims may be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added.

An early and favorable Action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:plb
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100